California Wines Japan Brand Localization Project

Team North Asia and Australasia







Japanese company apologises for 9 cent price increase

The company has now made a public apology through a 60 second advertisement that ran on national TV

A Japanese frozen dessert company has apologised for increasing the price of its Garigari-kun, a popular ice cream for children.

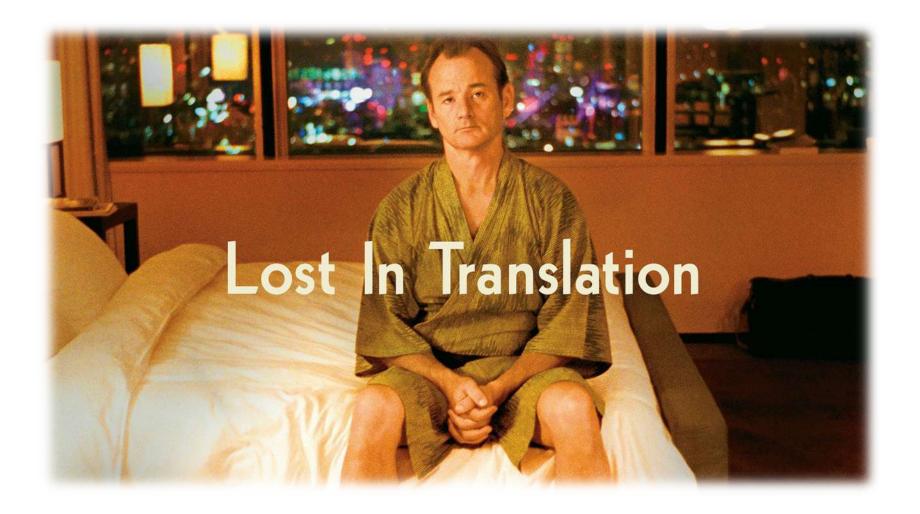
Akagi Nyugyo increased the price of its popsicle, going up from Y60 to Y70 (\$0.62), a hike of 9 cents for the first time in 25 years.

To show their remorse, the company has now made a public apology through a 60 second advertisement that ran on national TV, in which the firm's president Inoue Sota, its chairman Hideki Inoue and staff bowed to viewers. The apology end with text that reads: "We held on for 25 years but... $60 \rightarrow 70$ " accompanied by a folk song in the background.

The company explained the price increase of the product, which has been wildly popular since it went on sale in 1981, due to higher production and packaging costs.

In Japan public apologies are both expected and scrutinised, but this week's video was among the more unusual ways a company has asked for forgiveness.

Don't get...



Don't get caught in machine translation, either





Please wear a mask inside the gym.
マスクが苦しい場合は鼻まで下げると軽減されます。
マスクがない方は入口にご用意していますのでご利用ください。
If the mask is hard,lower it to the nose to seduce it.
If you don't have a mask,please use it because it is prepared at the entrance.



Japan Brand Localization Project

- A year-long project managed in collaboration with btrax, a SF-based design and marketing company helps bridge 'gaps' with Japan
- We knew some of the global/Western-led brand execution didn't always sit well with our audience
- Yet the integrity and the cohesiveness of the global brand is very important
- The 3 Phases:
 - 1. User Research SEP 22
 - 2. Localized Brand System Workshop in SF MAR 23
 - 3. Defining Creative Direction & Actual Design Work coming up

User Research Key Findings

- Wine is for <u>special occasions</u> and not for everyday
- Consumers understand that wine requires <u>a deeper</u> understanding to fully respect and master.
 They are open to trying new kinds of wines but <u>need</u> opportunities to do so. (And it's not social media)
- Consumers understand the special relationship between wine and food: Food is essential to enjoying wine, with the notion that wine enhances the food.
- Perception: Wine is a drink to <u>share with someone</u>, with food
- The 3 Personas

The Foodie



The Intellect



The Socializer



'Less is more' or Organized chaos?











'Less is more' or Organized chaos?

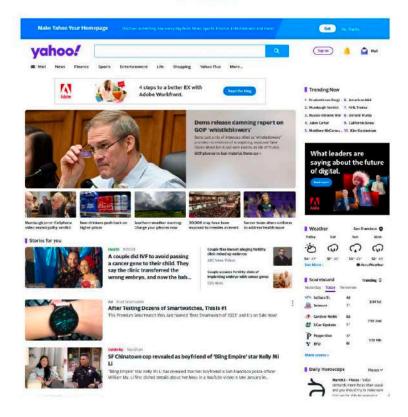




'Less is more' or Organized chaos?







Cool or Cute?





Cool or Cute?

















Cool or Cute?













































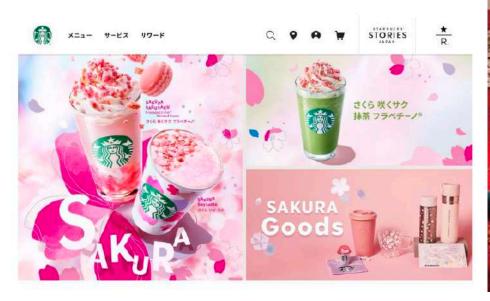
Gloss or Sizzle?







The Respect to the Occasion









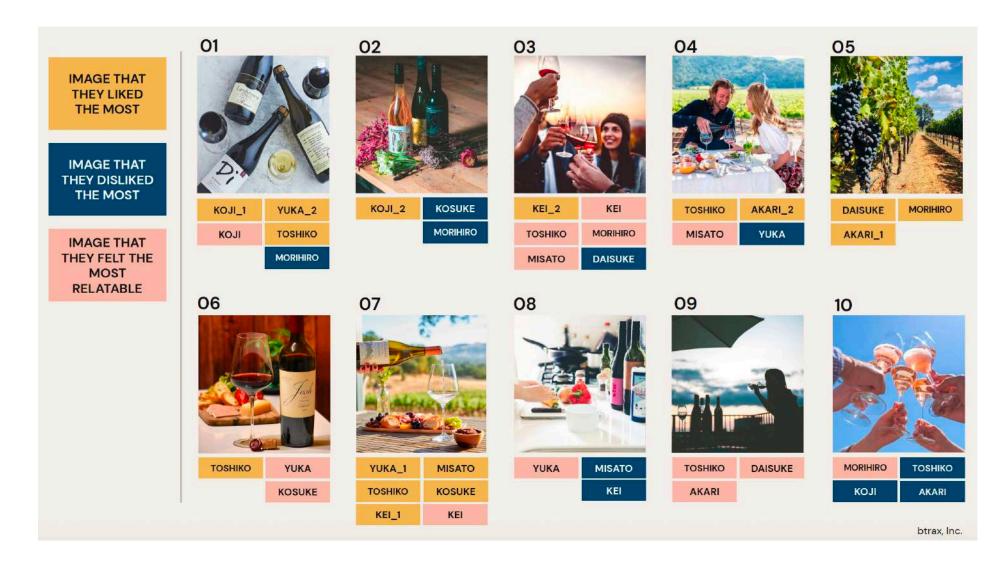
Butter flavor or *Shoyu* (soy sauce) flavor?







Visual Analysis from the user interviews



Key Question

Where is the right balance in brand adaptation...

SO we can speak into the hearts and minds of the local audience

WHILE keeping the consistent global branding?

Outcomes To Date

- Localized Creative Guideline & Key Visuals
- Photo Shoot in California with Japanese models
- Localized website and social contents
- California Wine Day on Sept 9 & focus on other holidays
- And we have this guy to evolve...

